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THE LAW OF FRAUDULENT CONVEYANCES. By Melville Madison Bigelow. With Editorial Notes by Kent Knowlton. Boston: Little, Brown and Company. 1911. pp. lxi, 762.

In the two volumes published in 1888 and 1890, entitled "A Treatise on the Law of Fraud on its Civil Side," Dean Bigelow set himself the task of defining fraud and covering as a whole the entire field indicated in the title. For this purpose he divided fraud into two parts: "In the one the person defrauded and the person defrauding have been dealing with each other; that part is 'deception.' In the other they have not been dealing with each other; that part is 'circumvention.'" The first part of the subject, so divided, was covered in the earlier volume. Circumvention was the subject of the second volume, which treated fraudulent conveyances and a few other matters under the heading of evasion.

The present book is the second volume, newly edited, and issued as a separate treatise, with the matters other than fraudulent conveyances omitted. This is a departure from the author's original intention of defining fraud and covering the whole subject (as a matter of civil law) in a single treatise. Tort for deceit and fraudulent conveyances are well-defined topics, but otherwise the subject of fraud lacks continuity, entering, as it does, into so many otherwise unrelated fields as to render it inherently difficult to treat as a whole, — the difficulty increasing with the development of the law. Had this new volume covered the entire field of its predecessor, we should, for example, have expected it to contain a discussion of the effect, or supposed effect, of "fraud" in rendering corporate organization substantially ineffective, and a definition of such "fraud," — a subject which is properly a part of the law of corporations and can best be treated only in that connection. Other instances occur which, with other considerations, show the wisdom of publishing the present volume as a separate work.

The new volume is substantially similar to that part of the old which dealt with fraudulent conveyances, there being but few omissions, and a few slight alterations, from the original text. The author's notes are enlarged, and new citations added, by indicated insertions; also there is a new series of notes by the editor. These include, among various comments upon the text and upon collateral points, a long note upon conditional sales, a note on Sales of Goods in Bulk Acts, and several notes occasioned by the Federal Bankruptcy Act, which is not treated in the text.

A. R. G.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW. By James Parker Hall. Chicago: La Salle Extension University. 1911. pp. xiv, 457.

This volume was prepared not for the practitioner nor for the student of law, but for the general reader. The plan includes an enunciation of the principal doctrines and a statement of a considerable number of the principal cases. As the plan is a good one and is executed with care, the result is a volume the usefulness of which extends beyond the circle of those non-professional readers whose needs it aims to fill, and any person of intelligence, whether layman or lawyer, will find it thoroughly interesting. Moreover, as the book does not excessively quote from judicial opinions and is in no sense a paraphrase of earlier treatises, it deserves to be recognized, notwithstanding its modest purpose, as a noticeably honest piece of work.